Scarcity of water in the country

†3028. SHRI MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during rainy season in the country water harvesting can be carried on only for 30 days;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that storage capacity through water harvesting in the country is just 200 cubic metre per capita at present;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that due to less storage capacity, the problem of scarcity of water in the country is mounting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) There is large temporal variation in the rainfall and about 75% of the rainfall occurs during the monsoon period (June to October) and that too from a few spells of intense rainfall. The water flowing during this period is stored in the reservoir and used in the non-monsoon period.

(c) and (d) The total storage capacity created in the country is 213 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM). Therefore, the per capita storage capacity is 207 cubic metre.

(e) In view of large temporal variation in availability of water resources, it is necessary to conserve the water and create more storage capacity for meeting the future requirements.

Meetings of Joint River Commission between India and Bangladesh

3029. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of decisions taken at the recent meetings of Joint River Commission between India and Bangladesh;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.